

Treasury Department,

Bureau of the Mint,

Washington, D. C., March 24, 1899.

Messrs. Chubb & Son,

Fuller Building,

Jersey City, New Jersey.

Gentlemen:

I have your favor of the 23rd, quoting a rate of forty-five cents per thousand net for insurance on bullion and currency in transit by registered mail between Seattle and San Francisco.

I had not replied to your letter of the 15th, because I have negotiations pending with the Post Office Department looking to some special facilities for these shipments and I wanted to hear from them before reaching a conclusion. We have asked that they waive the four pound limit on fourth-class packages. The first-class postage rate will carry the cost of shipment by this method above the cost by express and while it is true that the Government pays out of one department into another, it is also true that we must keep our disbursements within our appropriation and we would not be able to do it by paying first-class postage rates. I have also asked if it would be practicable to have heavy shipments accompanied by special messenger and to have mail wagons call for and deliver the shipments at the Mints.

I will confer with you further when a conclusion is reached upon these points.

Very truly yours,


 Director of the Mint.